

KILNINVER AND KILMELFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The meeting of the above council was held on Tuesday 11TH October 2011 at Kilmelford Village Hall, starting at 8.10pm following the AGM

Present: Nigel Mitchell (NM) Chair, Antoinette Mitchell (AM) Planning Officer, Lucy Files (LF) Secretary, Matthew Anderson (MA) Treasurer, John MacLean (JM), Sarah Edwards (SE), Colin Clark (CC).

Also in attendance were Councillors Neil MacKay and Duncan MacIntyre and Chief Inspector Brian Auld and 24 members of the public.

Apologies: Stuart Cannon, Peter Hammick and ABC Councillor Elaine Robertson.

Minutes of the previous meeting: All present were given the opportunity to read through the draft minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th August 2011. The minutes were taken as a true and accurate representation of the meeting and approved. Proposed MA seconded JM

Declaration of Interest

No conflict of interest or involvement with any items on the Agenda was declared.

MATTERS ARISING

1. Clachan Wind Farm

Mr Young's application is to be submitted at the end of the month. The public has been notified by leaflet about a drop-in session regarding the proposed wind farm.

2. Wind Farms – General

The Chair is to meet with a representative of the Scottish Community Foundation (SCF) on Friday 14th October. The purpose of the meeting is to look at the possibility of setting up a community Trust to manage any funds coming into the community as a benefit of a wind farm being established in the area. There would appear to be benefits to having a Trust but the SCF Rep does take his fees from the developer.

3. Ardmaddy Fish Farm

KKCC is unable to take any action at present. Argyll and Bute Council (ABC) Planning Department appears to be unhappy with the application as it stands and there is debate over accuracy regarding elements of the application. The applicant has been invited, by ABC Planning Department, to address the science and accurately assess the potential environmental damage prior to submitting the application. Questions were raised about SEPA's involvement and level of concern but it was pointed out that SEPA cannot act in this matter until they are asked to do so although Lakeland Marine (applicant) has been asked by ABC to approach SEPA. Cllr Neil MacKay pointed out that there will be many pre-application discussions between the applicant and the Planning Department and added that he is fairly certain the matter will go to a hearing. He urged the community to inform itself and, accordingly, take the opportunity to object or support the application at hearing.

At this point a brief overview was given of the website www.savesellsound.org.uk. This is an ongoing project providing information about issues surrounding the development.

4. Training for Community Councillors

NM raised the issue that Community Councillors have absolutely no training and the want of this is felt in particular with regard to dealing with planning applications the most contentious of which (at present) are those for wind farms and fish farms. ABC Councillors were asked about the possibility of training for Community Councillors. The ABC Councillors responded that no training courses are in the pipeline and advised drawing on the knowledge of people within the community who have relevant training and experience. KKCC was also advised to

approach elected Councillors or Planning Officers for specific information. A general comment was that Marine Planning in particular is a fairly new area of planning and everyone involved is on a steep learning curve.

5. Planning Applications

Ref. No: 11/01961/NMA. Land at Eleraig, Kilninver, PA34 4UX, amendment for revised access position relative to 2 dwelling houses – pending decision

Ref. No: 11/01835/NMA. Lagganbeg, Kilninver, PA34 4UU, amendment for minor changes to self-catering unit and outbuilding – application withdrawn

Ref. No: 11/01719/TPO. Melfort Pier and Harbour, Kilmelford, PA34 4XD, proposed felling of 8 trees, lopping of 13 trees and re-planting of 22 trees – application permitted.

Ref. No: 11/01594/PNAGRI. Land adjacent to Clure Cottage, Kilninver, PA34 4UU, erection of agricultural shed – application permitted.

Ref. No: 11/01490/PP. Land SE of Tigh Na Bata, Kilmelford, PA34 4XA, erection of single storey dwelling house with septic tank and new access – pending consideration.

Ref. No: 11/01471/PP. Land NE of Ardenstur, Kilmelford, erection of boathouse and office facility – pending consideration.

Ref. No: 11/01407/PP. Melfort Pier Restaurant, Kilmelford, PA34 4XD, change of use from restaurant to dwellinghouse – application permitted.

Ref. No: 11/01066/MFF. Port N Morachd, Seil Sound, relocation of Ardmaddy fish farm – pending consideration

Ref. No: 11/01164/PP. Barndromin, Knipoch PA34 4QS, installation of micro hydro scheme – application permitted.

6. Correspondence

A letter from Fountains regarding Forestry UKWAS Certification. The letter invites KKCC to comment on their Forest Management Practices as part of a re-evaluation process by Control Union Certifications.

A questionnaire from the NHS. SE to complete this on behalf of KKCC.

7. Community Policing

Brian Auld (BA), Chief Inspector at Oban Police Office, (Ch Insp BA) presented a short report on incidents relevant to Kilninver and Kilmelford in the past year as follows:

4 single vehicle accidents - 1 in Kilninver and 3 in Kilmelford.

9 speed Checks in Kilninver area resulting in 8 drivers being charged and 17 warned. No reports to the Procurator Fiscal.

2 speed Checks in Kilmelford with no charges or warnings and no reports to the Procurator Fiscal.

0 crime reports and no reports of any acts of violence, disorder or dishonesty.

There have been an increased number of reports of diesel spillage and there has been concern from the public about these.

There were requests from the floor for better information about road closures and concerns about all calls being routed through Glasgow. More speed checks in Kilmelford were requested. Chief Insp BA advised that he would leave a direct contact number for the Oban Police Office and that speed checks in Kilmelford would be increased

The issue of anti-social behaviour was discussed. Chief Insp BA advised that where possible it is preferable for individuals to resolve matters between themselves. If police involvement is thought necessary then an incident should be reported at the time of occurrence so that patterns can be perceived and analysed which in turn helps with proactive, preventive policing.

Finally the Chief Inspector apologised for the advertising of a meeting with the community at 7pm this evening. This was in error although he will arrange such a meeting; date to be determined.

8. Fence Around the Electricity Substation

Concerns were raised about the inadequacy of the fence enclosing the electricity substation sited at The Glebe. The fence is in the form of a wooden stockade with horizontal straps to the outside and is inviting for children to climb. Young children have been observed trying to scale the fence and recently some teenagers succeeded in scaling it to gain access to the roof of the substation. This matter is of utmost importance with regard to safety and requires urgent attention. ABC Cllrs were asked for their help in resolving the issue forthwith and ABC Cllr DM said he would look into it.

9. Street Signs

ABC Cllr DM reported that MacLeods will put up signs for The Glebe when the new development there is finished. Other areas in Kilmelford lacking signage are Cuilfail Terrace, Cuilfail Cottages and Cuilfail Garden. It was pointed out that Cuilfail Garden is private ground and the people who live there do not necessarily want signage. ABC Cllr DM undertook to ascertain who is responsible for signage. He also reported that he was unable to locate a dropped kerb which was reported at a previous meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Training

There is to be a training evening for Community Councillors at the Regent Hotel in Oban on Wednesday 26th October. NM and AM said they would attend.

Grass Cutting

Many thanks to Duncan MacMillan and Linda MacKinnon for cutting the grass beside Kilmelford Church.

Email from Fiona Wylie regarding transparency

The email referred to asks for a hard copy of the speech delivered by AM at the Raera Wind Farm Hearing

This issue has been raised previously so AM reiterated that a hard copy of the speech does not exist. AM then delivered a detailed response which she had prepared in answer to FW's emails the salient points of which are:

- a) AM wrote a letter to the planners of behalf of KKCC to the Planners. This letter was approved by all KK Community Councillors, was printed on line and was also printed in its entirety in the Kilninford News.
- b) The speech delivered at the Raera Hearing was based on the letter and did not contain any additional information. The only alterations were of a grammatical, syntactic nature to facilitate delivery of the content as a speech rather than reading a letter aloud.
- c) The summary was delivered ad lib because AM was unaware that this would be expected. Thus no hard copy exists or has ever existed. The only additional information in the summary was that an email had been issued by NPower advising that the PPSL should ignore community opinions and this information had only come to light within the day before the Hearing.

Community Councillors commented as follows:

- that the matter of Raera Wind Farm has been dealt with and finished
- that the issue of the speech and summary has been answered more than once
- that it is contrary to guidelines and protocol to allow this matter to take up any more time at KKCC meetings

It was further ascertained that ABC, as the public body convening the Raera Hearing, holds minutes of the proceedings. While these are not a verbatim transcript they do provide a detailed record of what took place and would include an outline of AM's summing up. These minutes are available on the ABC website. It was also pointed out by Dr Allan Henderson that it is the responsibility of the public body calling any meeting or hearing to keep records of the proceedings. It is not the responsibility of the person delivering the speech or evidence. MA then proposed a motion that this document is not going to be discussed any longer and LF seconded this.

Solar Panels

Fiona Wylie is putting together information on solar energy photovoltaic panels and is willing to provide information to anyone interested.

Draft Minutes and Agenda

There was a request from the floor for the draft minutes to be emailed to anyone who has submitted their email address. KKCC responded that it is planned to publish the Draft Minutes on the Arduaine, Kilninver and Kilmelford website and ways are being looked at to make the draft minutes more accessible

Garnering public opinion

This issue was raised by a member of the public. KKCC responded as follows:

- this has been discussed among the KK Community Councillors and it has been decided that KKCC will not be proactive in gathering opinions and responses from the community.
- KK Community Councillors will be available for members of the public to contact
- KKCC will invite opinions from the floor and will take opinions from any members of the public provided that they leave a name and address

Declaration of Interest

ABC Cllr Duncan MacIntyre cautioned that if there is to be a Declaration of Interest at each meeting then Any Other Competent Business must be managed so that declared issues are not discussed.

Village Hall

AM announced that the new tables and sixty of the new chairs have arrived; also insulation of the loft space above the Lesser Hall and other ancillary rooms, including the toilets and kitchen, is to go ahead within the next few weeks. The Lesser Hall is to be fully insulated using a similar method to that used in the Main Hall. The whole project is being funded by "Awards For All".

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Kilninver and Kilmelford Community Council will be held at Kilmelford Village Hall on Tuesday 13th December at 8.00pm. NM thanked all present for attending. Deidre Campbell-Gibson proposed a vote of thanks to KK Community Councillors for their hard work. There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.30pm.